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Dear Jacob K. Javits Fellow:

Continuation of your studies on the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship requires that you complete the fiscal year 2004 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by January 31, 2004, and submit the results to your Javits Program coordinator at your school. The fiscal year 2004 FAFSA becomes available on January 1, 2004.

You can file the FAFSA electronically via the web at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) (NOTE: You need a PIN number only if you want to use information from your prior year's FAFSA submission.) The FAFSA instructions allow you to make estimates of your income, assets and expenses if you have not received your W2s or filed your taxes at the time you complete the form. Graduate students are automatically considered independent in the Title IV processing system. You do not provide your parents financial information. You can obtain a hardcopy of the FAFSA from the Financial Aid Office at your school or by contacting the Federal Student Aid Information Center at 1(800) 433-3243. The result from a hardcopy submission of the FAFSA takes four to six weeks.

The Department of Education is requesting your institution submit paperwork relevant to your fellowship by April 30, 2004. **Please note that a fellowship will not be processed for you if your financial need information is not included on the continuation paperwork from your school.**

The Jacob K. Javits Fellowship is authorized by Part A, Subpart 1, Title VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. Congress has appropriated funds for fellowships in the 2004 academic year. The Javits fellowship is renewable for the lesser of three years, or the time needed for completing your program of study. You may receive a continuation of the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship only if you comply with the requirements of the statute, regulations, and policies established by the Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Board.

The FAFSA will be used to determine your need for the maximum fellowship stipend. The maximum fellowship stipend for this year was \$21,500. The maximum Javits stipend for fiscal year 2004 will be at least \$21,500 but is subject to change based on the FY 2004 fellowship stipend for the National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship Program. The actual stipend amount for an individual Javits fellow will be based on their financial need as calculated under Title IV, Part F of the Higher Education Act, as amended, or the maximum stipend whichever is less.

The Javits fellowship also includes an institutional payment. This year the institutional payment was \$11,296. The institutional payments for FY 2004 will be the current amount of \$11,296 adjusted in accordance with the Consumer Price Index at the end of year. Your institution has agreed to accept the institutional payment in lieu of all tuition and other expenses normally charged to students in your program. The institutional allowance is reduced by any amount that your institution charges to you or requires from you in the form of labor in payment for tuition and fees.

Please consult with your institution regarding questions on calculating financial need, transfers, interruptions of study, employment and changes in field of study. The Javits Coordinator at your school will provide assistance to you if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Carmen Gordon  
Program Officer  
Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program